

middle third of the scale. They are proportionately smaller in larger specimens. The largest specimen noticed by me is 5 feet 7 inches long.

*Philodryas viridissimus* is not quite so common as the last species. The largest specimen I have seen measured 4 feet. Reinhardt found two grooves in the scales of this snake. After a careful search, I cannot find more than one groove at the tip of the scales. Some scales on the tail have certainly two grooves, evidently in consequence of the confluence of two scales.

*Philodryas schottii*.—I obtained a single specimen in a bad state.

Of the family of *Dendrophidæ* I have seen a single specimen of *Ahætulla liocerca* \*; it must be a very beautiful snake. It is said to be exceedingly lively; and this, with its proportionately long teeth, may be the cause of its being considered dangerous by the Brazilians.

The family of *Dryophidæ* has two representatives in Bahia, belonging to the genus *Dryophis*—*D. argentea* and *D. acuminata*. The former is very scarce (I have seen only one specimen in Mr. C. M. Föppel's collection), the latter very common.

## 6. DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF ELAPOMORPHUS FROM BRAZIL. BY DR. OTHO WUCHERER, CORR. MEMB.

### ELAPOMORPHUS SCALARIS.

Eight upper labials, the fourth and fifth touching the eye, the seventh largest. Scales in seventeen rows; 128–130 ventral shields; dirty brick-red above; head brownish, with a black narrow dorsal streak traversed by short black bands; narrow black spots on the sides.

*Hab.* Cañavieras, Matta de S. João, Bahia.

*Description.*—The body of moderate length, almost cylindrical; belly flat; the tail short. Head moderate, distinct, with flat crown; the cleft of mouth moderate; rostral shield triangular, almost reaching the surface of the head, recurved, concave, the inferior edge slightly protruding; three frontals, two anterior and one posterior, the former small, almost triangular, very narrow in the antero-posterior direction, the posterior one very large; one nasal pierced by the nostril; nostril large, lateral; superciliary shield small; one anterior, two posterior oculars, the anterior large, high, forming a short suture with the vertical; loreal elongate; vertical moderate, almost triangular; occipitals large, forked behind; one temporal, sometimes two, one behind the other, touching the inferior posterior ocular; upper labial shields eight, the fourth and fifth touching the eye, the seventh largest; eye moderate, sublateral, pupil round; scales rhombic, not truncated, smooth, equal, without any groove, a few in the middle row of the tail larger, in seventeen rows; posterior tooth longest, grooved; two pair of chin-shields. Snout and part of crown brown and bluish iridescent, irregularly speckled with black; lips

\* I received it from Mr. Christopher Gayleard, whose unceasing kindness in assisting me to collect specimens I am happy to acknowledge.

white; the back is of a dirty brick-colour: a black streak, of the breadth of the middle dorsal row of scales, runs along the body almost to the tip of the tail; this is crossed by short, transverse, black bands, some of which do not correspond exactly in their lateral halves; on the sides a line of narrow, almost linear, black spots; underneath uniform yellowish white.

Dimensions of two specimens:—

|                             |       |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
| Length of head . . . . .    | 0·010 | 0·013 |
| Length of tail . . . . .    | 0·040 | 0·055 |
| Total length . . . . .      | 0·320 | 0·250 |
| Ventral shields . . . . .   | 128   | 34    |
| Subcaudal shields . . . . . | 130   | 34    |

The smaller specimen is in the British Museum. The larger specimen was sent to me from Cañavieras. It was injured in the head, and a few characters are not recognizable; the smaller corresponds with it in every particular. I received it from M. C. Gayleard, from the Matta de S. João, a few leagues south from the city of Bahia. This species differs from others in the shape of its head, which is distinct, in having a shorter body, broader ventral shields, and seventeen rows of scales; but the dentition and coloration are very similar.

#### 7. REVIEW OF THE VERMETIDÆ. BY OTTO A. L. MÖRCH (OF COPENHAGEN). (Part II.\*)

Genus SPIROGLYPHUS, Daudin, Recueil, 1800, p. 39.

*Spiroglyphus*, Gray, Guide, 1857, p. 127; Mörch, Journ. Conch. 1859, viii. p. 360.

*Bivonia*, Gray, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1847, p. 156 (nec Gray, nec Cat. Brit. Mus. 1842, pp. 62 & 90); Gray, Figs. of Moll. 1850, iv. p. 82 (not description); Adams, Genera, p. 358 (not the description).

*Stoa*, De Serres, Ann. des Sc. 1855, pl. 259. pp. .

*T. plerumque planorbiformis corrodens; striæ incrementi expressæ; liræ spirales rarissime inveniuntur.*

*Operculum magnum crassum superne convexum, laminis concentricis crassis; inferne planum concentrice liratum, centro mammilla cylindrica valida, periphæria margine angusto elevato sæpe compresso; color sanguineus vel atro-purpureus.*

The shell of this genus is so similar to that of *Stoa* that it can only be distinguished by the operculum, which is convex outside, flat inside, with a central cylindrical wart, not mentioned either by Dr. Gray (Guide), by Bivona, or Philippi. It has some relations to the lid of *Vermiculus*, and in some respects it approaches that of *Pyxi-poma*; I know at least no true *Vermetus* which, according to the lid, is more allied to it. The colour varies in all the species from bright purple to nearly black, and the surface from nearly flat to very convex. I refer to this genus *V. glomeratus*, Biv., which only

\* See P. Z. S. 1861, p. 145.